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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

2292 7590 10/07/2008

BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

FAULK, DEVONA E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,558	03/08/2002	Olof Arvidsson	0104-0386P	7898

TITLE OF INVENTION: AUDIO RECEIVING SYSTEM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	01/07/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

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nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	01/07/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
FAULK, DEVONAE	2615	381-092000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB-122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB-47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

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Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 776 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 776 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/092,558

Examiner

DEVONA E. FAULK

Applicant(s)

ARVIDSSON, OLOF

Art Unit

2615

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 7/7/08.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-24,26,28 and 31-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Remarks

1. The applicant failed to provide any arguments regarding the rejections set forth in the previous rejection. The applicant only states that in light of the amendments that the examiner reconsider the outstanding rejections.
2. Claims 3-7, 19, 26 and 28 were indicated as allowable subject matter in the previous rejection.
3. The examiner determined that an examiner's amendment was necessary to place the claims in allowable form. The applicant agreed to an examiner's amendment to place the claims in allowable form.
4. Claims 20-22 were indicated as allowable in the previous office action and remain in allowable form.
5. Claims 5, 19, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 37 are cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Titcomb (Reg. No. 46463) on 9/24/08 .

The claims are to be amended as follows:

Claims 15-17, line 1 of each claim: after "wherein said", insert - - signal - -.

Claim 1 should be amended to recite the following:

1. A system for receiving audio signals from a plurality of microphones and transferring said audio signals via (a) common composite signal channelss to a receiving unit, said system comprising:

at least two satellite units, each having a separate housing, a microphone signal input, a composite signal channel input, and summing means for summing a microphone signal and a composite signal; and

a master unit having two composite signal channel inputss, and signal converting means for converting said composite signal channel inputs into at least one master signal, which is provided to the receiving unit via (a)_master signal outputs; wherein each satellite unit is positionable away from the receiving unit and connected to a different one of said common composite signal channelss, such that the microphone signal received at the respective satellite unit, is added to said different one of said common composite signal channels, which is fed to the master unit; and wherein said master unit is arranged to supply operating power to the satellite units.

Claim 19 should be amended to recite the following:

19. A system for receiving audio signals from a plurality of microphones and transferring said audio signals via a plurality of common composite signal channelss to a receiving unit, said system comprising:

at least two satellite units, each having a separate housing, a microphone signal input, a composite signal channel input, and summing means for summing a microphone signal and a composite signal; and

a master unit having two composite signal channel inputss, and signal converting means for converting said composite signal channel inputs into master signalss, which are provided to the receiving unit via (a) master signal outputss; wherein

each satellite unit is positionable away from the receiving unit and connected to a different one of said common composite signal channelss, such that the microphone signal received at the respective satellite unit, is added to said different one of said common composite signal channels, which is fed to the master unit; and

said master unit is arranged to supply operating power to the satellite units and said receiving unit is a mixing console.

Claim 20 should be amended to recite the following:

20. A system for receiving audio signals from a plurality of microphones and transferring said audio signals via (a) common composite signal channelss to a receiving unit, said system comprising:

at least two satellite units, each having a microphone signal input, a composite signal

channel input, and summing means for summing a microphone signal and a composite signal; and

a master unit having two composite signal channel inputs, and signal converting means for converting said composite signal channel inputs into (a) first and second master signals, which are provided to the receiving unit via (a) said first and second master signal outputs; wherein

each satellite unit is connected to a different one of said common composite signal channels, such that the microphone signal received at the respective satellite unit, is added to said different one of said common composite signal channels, which is fed to the master unit;

(said system comprises at least two common composite signal channels);

(and) said first and second master signals are supplied from the master unit to the receiving unit via first and second connectors and wherein the receiving unit, via at least one of said first and second connectors, supply operating power to at least the master unit.

Claim 28 should be amended to recite the following:

28. A satellite unit for use in a system for receiving audio signals from a plurality of microphones and transferring said audio signals via two common composite signal channels to a receiving unit, said system comprising:

at least two satellite units, each having a separate housing, a microphone signal input, a

composite signal channel input, and summing means for summing a microphone signal and a composite signal; and

a master unit having two composite signal channel inputs, and signal converting means for converting said composite signal channel inputs into a-master signals, which are provided to the receiving unit via two master signal outputs;

wherein

each satellite unit is positionable away from the receiving unit and connected to a different one of said common composite signal channels, such that the microphone signal received at the respective satellite unit, is added to said different one of said common composite signal channels, which is fed to the master unit; and said master unit is arranged to supply operating power to the satellite units, said satellite unit including:

a composite signal channel connector for receiving a composite signal; a microphone input connector for receiving a microphone signal, and summing means for summing said composite signal and said microphone signal, wherein and said composite signal channel connector is adapted for receiving microphone operating power.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-4,6-24,26,28,31-36 are allowed.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding claims 1,19,20,26 and 28 prior art Goldberg et al. (US 5,966,639) discloses a system

and method for enhancing speech intelligibility utilizing wireless communications including talker units having a composite channel. Prior art McKinley Jr. (US 4,479,240) discloses an audio mixing console with control element position storage including an audio mixing console comprising an external processing unit used for adding special effects to a composite site. Prior art Bissonnette et al. (US 4,918,717) discloses an alarm system having bi-directional communication with secured area including a master unit that supplies power to a plurality of microphones.

Regarding claim 1, the prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious a master unit having two composite signal channel inputs, and signal converting means for converting said composite signal channel inputs into master signals, which are provided to the receiving unit via master signal outputs; wherein each satellite unit is positionable away from the receiving unit and connected to a different one of said common composite signal channels, such that the microphone signal received at the respective satellite unit, is added to said different one of said common composite signal channels, which is fed to the master unit.

Regarding claim 19, the prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious a master unit having a plurality of composite signal channel inputs, and signal converting means for converting said composite signal channel inputs into master signals, which are provided to the receiving unit via master signal outputs; wherein each satellite unit is positionable away from the receiving unit and connected to a different one of said common composite signal channels, such that the microphone signal

received at the respective satellite unit, is added to said different one of said common composite signal channels, which is fed to the master unit.

Regarding claim 20, the prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious a master unit having two composite signal channel inputs, and that the first and second master signals are supplied from the master unit to the receiving unit via first and second connectors and wherein the receiving unit, via at least one said first and second connectors supply operating power to at least the master unit.

Regarding claim 26, the prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious said master signal output connector comprises first and second connectors, wherein said first connector is arranged to provide a first signal channel to the receiving unit and to receive operating power for at least the master unit and wherein said second connector is arranged to provide a second signal channel to the receiving unit and to receive operating power for the satellite units.

Regarding claim 28, the prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious a plurality of separately housed satellite units, which are connected to two signal channels, adding said plurality of microphone signals to form a composite signal in each of said signal channels, receiving said composite signals in a master unit, converting said composite signals into master signals, and providing said master signals to said receiving unit, wherein each separately housed satellite unit is connected to a different one of said composite signals.

Claims 2-4,5-19,21-24,31-36 are allowed due to dependency on claims 1 and 20.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DEVONA E. FAULK whose telephone number is (571)272-7515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Devona E. Faulk/
Examiner, Art Unit 2615

/Vivian Chin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2615